

بني حِالله الرَّحانِ الرّحيد

Prime Minister Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Patron of the 19th International Conference of IAS

Message

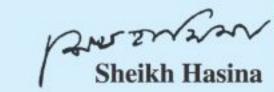
I am extremely delighted that the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS), in cooperation with the Government of Bangladesh, is holding its 19th International Conference on the theme 'Achieving Socio-economic Development in the Islamic World through Science, Technology and Innovationin' in Dhaka from 05-09 May 2013.

IAS has been playing an important advisory role for the countries of the Organization of Islamic Co-operation (OIC) on matters of science and technology since its inception in 1986. The Conference in Dhaka will offer immense opportunities for exchanging and sharing of views and experiences amongst the IAS members across the Muslim World. I am convinced that the Conference will provide the right platform for the OIC member states to showcase their progress in the areas of science and technology, bio-technology and information technology, health, education and so on.

Despite the fact that Bangladesh is one of the resource-constraint countries of the OIC, it has made significant strides in pace with the developments in the spheres of information, communication, science and technology in the world. The government and people are in pursuit of the "Vision-2021" to establish a knowledge-based Digital Bangladesh.

It is my firm belief that the Dhaka Conference will contribute to the attainment of IAS's longterm objectives to address contemporary issues of importance to the countries of the Islamic World, particularly the developing ones.

I thank the organizers for their diligent work and wish the Conference a resounding success in achieving the objectives of the Conference and IAS as a whole.







Foreign Minister Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chair of the National Committee of the 19th International Conference of IAS

Message

We are delighted that under the patronage of Her Excellency Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the 19th International Conference of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) is being organized in Dhaka on 6-9 May 2013. I extend my warm felicitations to the organizers for publishing this souvenir.

The Conference is expected to bring together distinguished scientists from all over the Muslim world for exchange of ideas and views. It is my firm conviction that this will pave the way for achieving greater socio-economic development in the Muslim countries through optimum use of science, technology and innovation. My sincere thanks go to all concerned for devoting their time, energy and effort in preparing for the Conference.

I deeply appreciate Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) for its commitment to the endeavour of exchange and transfer of technology and scientific knowledge among the countries in the Muslim Ummah. With a view to facing challenges of the 21st century, IAS has been carrying the mantle of promoting the values of science and reason in the Muslim societies.

The Government, under the leadership of Her Excellency Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, envisions a 'Digital Bangladesh' in the year 2021 when Bangladesh will celebrate its golden jubilee of her independence. Science and technology will play the pivotal role in the achievement of that cherished goal. In this context, it has been my privilege to have a role in organizing the 19th International Conference of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences. With deep respect, gratitude and admiration, I acknowledge the kind support and guidance provided by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in successfully holding this conference.

I hope that this Conference will not only facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise among the renowned academicians but also inspire greater quest for learning among the young scholars towards building an enlightened Muslim world.

I wish the Conference all success.

Dr. Dipu Moni, MP



State Minister Ministry of Science and Technology Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Co-chair of the National Committee of the 19th International Conference of IAS



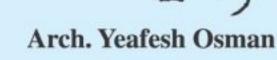
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Science and Technology plays the main role as driving force for socioeconomic development in the modern world. Organizing the 19th IAS Conference with the Theme of 'Achieving Socioeconomic Development in the Islamic World through Science, Technology and Innovation' is a time worthy initiative. Bangladesh is one of the Islamic countries which has given greater emphasis on science and technology for achieving its objectives of vision 2021. We are extremely happy to organize this event jointly with IAS in our country.

I am also pleased to know that some of the most prominent scientists, managers and policy planners of the Islamic world have gathered on the occasion. Sharing experiences, this conference will help us for our betterment. I sincerely hope that important recommendations will come up from this conference to move the Islamic world forward in future.

I wish great success of this conference.







Message

The Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) and I have had a long association with Bangladesh through eminent individuals such as the late Professors M Ibrahim, A M Sharfuddin, S Z Haider, Abdel Salam Mia, J N Islam, and our current active contingent of Fellows which includes Professors A S Islam, M Shamsher Ali and A A Azad.

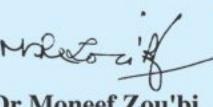
Director General

Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS)

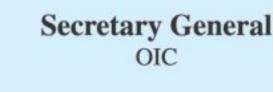
Not until September 2012 however did I have the chance to visit the country, meet up with local officials and start preparations for the 19th IAS Conference which was to be convened in Dhaka in 2013 under the patronage of the Prime Minister.

I have to admit that I was slightly surprised to discover that Bangladesh was a vibrant country trying hard to carve a future for itself and its sizeable population despite insurmountable challenges. Moreover, Bangladesh has been successful in facing up to the challenges of natural disasters as well as poverty and hunger, and has been able to achieve reasonable rates of economic growth.

OIC countries can draw many lessons from the Bangladesh phenomenon. Furthermore, the OIC science community can learn a lot from Bangladeshi scientists, and the vast expatriate component thereof, who seem to have a special fondness of their land of birth, and an eagerness to give back to the country in so many ways... gently reminding us of Khalil Gibran's famous adage: You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.







Message

On the occasion of the 19th International Conference of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS), I congratulate its distinguished Council, Fellows and Staff. I also congratulate the Government of Bangladesh for successful hosting of this august Conference.

Since its establishment in 1986, upon the recommendation of the OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) and approval by the 4th Islamic Summit Conference, the IAS has rendered valuable contributions for the promotion of Science and Technology in the OIC Member States. I am confident that the deliberations and the recommendations of this Conference will contribute further in the same direction.

The theme of the 19th IAS International Conference: 'Achieving Socio-Economic Development in the Islamic World through Science, Technology and Innovation' is extremely relevant in the context of contemporary challenges facing the Muslim world. Progress in Science, Technology and Innovation is crucial for the socio-economic development of the OIC Member States and addressing the issues of development, including poverty eradication, environment, climate change, human health, energy and water resources.

The reforms introduced in the Organization since 2005 have considerably strengthened activities of the OIC and its institutions in Science and Technology through R&D programmes, conducting STI Foresight studies, and promoting emerging technologies such as nanotechnology and biotechnology. The IAS, in collaboration with the other relevant OIC institutions and national academies of sciences, can play a crucial role for the mainstreaming of science, technology and innovation in the national planning processes and formulation of long-term STI strategies in the OIC Member States.

The 4th Extraordinary session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Makkah on 14-15 August 2012, called for the adoption of clearly defined measures to promote scientific and technological development and innovation and higher education. For this purpose the 12th Islamic Summit Conference, held in Cairo on 6-7 February 2013, mandated the OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) Secretariat to study and take necessary measures to propose an Islamic Summit on Science and Technology and its impact on the Islamic Ummah. I look forward to the engagement and valuable inputs of the OIC scientific community including the IAS Fellows towards the preparation of the S&T Summit under the aegis of COMSTECH during 2013.



HOSTING OF A UNIQUE EVENT

Launched in 1986, the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) is an autonomous international non-governmental organisation that plays the role of 'science advisor' of the countries of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on science and technology (S&T) matters. It boasts a membership of over 104 Fellows who represent the scientific elite of OIC countries and communities worldwide and has three Nobel Laureates, a number of Heads of State as well as top OIC business leaders among its select group of Honorary Fellows.

By debating scientific issues with top decision-makers and the public, the IAS has managed to raise the profile of science in the OIC and has become a propagandist for S&T in political circles within. Moreover, the IAS has become a house of expertise on matters related to higher education, natural resources development including water and energy as well as the environment at the level of the OIC, especially within academe.

The IAS partly fulfils its long-term objectives by organizing international conferences and seminars that address major contemporary topics of importance to the Islamic world and developing countries. Since 1987, the IAS has organised 18 such conferences in various olc member countries.

In 2013, the IAS is convening its conference in Dhaka (Bangladesh), for the first times, to address the multi-faceted and multi-layered theme of : Achieving Socioeconomic Development in the Islamic World Science, Technology and Innovation

Bangladesh is among the most populous of OIC countries. It is a country that is regularly affected by natural disasters, yet one that has managed to develop the capacity to mitigate and manage natural disasters effectively, and achieve food security for its vast population. As a result of some obvious strengths in certain export-oriented industrial sectors, it has managed to maintain high economic growth for more than a decude.

Government of the Bangladesh, is promoting science & Technology at the national level as a way of bringing about positive social change and balanced socioeconomic development in the country. S&T is being harnessed to foster sustainable use of the environment, ecosystem and resources, on the one hand, and contribute to the global pool of knowledge, on the other. The overall aim is to make S&T part of the national culture. In 2009 the government approved the country's Information and Communication



President Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS)



The Haily Star

DHAKA MONDAY MAY 6, 2013

Message

OOne of the objectives of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) is to reach out and engage the member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in the decision-making and S&T communities within.

invitation of the Honourable Prime Minister Bangladesh to discuss how OIC countries can realize socioeconomic advancement, in part through S&T. Bangladesh is among the most populous of OIC countries. It is a country that is regularly affected by natural disasters, yet one that has managed to develop the

capacity to mitigate and manage natural disasters effectively, and achieve a

In line with this objective, the IAS is convening in Dhaka upon the gracious

respectable level of food security for its vast population. As a result of some obvious strengths in certain export-oriented industrial sectors, it has also managed to maintain high economic growth although there are no linkages between public and private actors and no university-industry collaboration to speak of, as the UNESCO Science Report of 2010 tells us. On the other hand, Bangladesh's ingenuity manifests itself in light engineering where it is producing import-substitution products that are creating employment

and alleviating poverty. Endogenous technologies include ferries, power plants, machinery and spare parts. Bangladesh is also developing the high-tech sector of pharmaceuticals, and is almost 97% self sufficient in pharmaceuticals and even exports them to Europe. It is thus a unique case study to look at and learn more about. I hope that the IAS

Conference would be the right forum to learn about Bangladesh and its people, its successes and outlook for the future, and build the foundation for networking the Bangladesh S&T community with their counter-parts in the OIC and the world.

H E Dr Abdel Salam Majali FIAS



Chairman (State Minister) University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

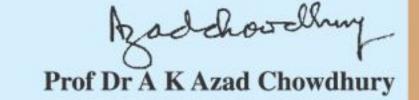


Message

It gives me immense pleasure to know that the Islamic World Academy of

Sciences (IAS) is going to hold its 19th Conference in Dhaka from May 4-9, 2013. The IAS, an organization proposed by OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH), approved by the Fourth Islamic Summit at Casablanca in 1984 and formed in Jordan in 1986, has constantly been striving hard to promote the cause of science, technology and innovation in the Islamic world. The conference will provide ample opportunities to exchange views, share experiences and establish research collaborations among the Fellows of Islamic World Academy of Sciences and their counterparts in Bangladesh. In today's world collaborative research bears far more significance in terms of publication and patenting in the realm of innovation compared to individualistic approach. I believe that the conference will play an important role in promoting the research collaboration in science, technology and innovation in the Islamic World, a world which owns over 70% of the global energy reserve and much of financial strength but are lagging behind in the innovations. The conference will help identify the priority areas of science & technology, especially the future technologies, and employ them to solve the problems that the Islamic world confronts to ensure better life and prosperity to their people in particular and to the mankind in general.

I wish the conference a grand success and hope that the objectives of the conference are achieved.



Technology Policy, which aims to contribute to raising the profile of the nation to that of a middle-income country within a decade. The policy considers that the country's annual growth rate can be pushed to above 7.5% of GNP through extensive use of ICTs.

The above factors, from the point of view of the IAS and the OIC science community, render Bangladesh as a unique case-study.

The conference will be attended by more than 70 distinguished Scientists and Technologists form 23 conutries including OIC Secretary General and IAS President with Foreign Minister Dr. Dipu Moni in the chair. Besides, More than 300 researchers and policy makers form Bangladesh are expected to participate in the conference.

